



## Standard Operating Procedure Refuse Disposal Division

**REFUSE**  
**DISPOSAL**  
**DIVISION**

### Emergency Procedures

## Radioactive Waste

The radiation monitoring system is located at the fee booth and consists of the monitor unit, detector assemblies and cables. The unit detects and counts gamma rays given off by radioactive material coming within range of the detectors.

1. When the radiation alarm sounds, fee booth personnel are to immediately notify the Supervising Disposal Site Representative (SDSR). The SDSR or designee will instruct the driver of the suspected vehicle to turn the two-way radio completely off and to drive past the detector again for the purpose of confirmation.
2. The SDSR or designee will instruct the hauler to move the vehicle with the suspected contaminated load to the "Holding Area" just north of the fee booth. The driver and passenger (if any) will be directed away from the vehicle.
3. The SDSR or designee will immediately call 911 and request the Fire Department dispatcher. The caller should give the dispatcher their name, location of the fee booth and request the Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team for response to a radioactive waste incident.
4. Notify the Hazardous Substances Enforcement Team (HSET) via Nextel phone system.
5. Upon notification, the HSET Inspector will verify that the Fire Department Hazardous Materials Team has been called. The Hazardous Materials Team will notify the appropriate County agencies.
6. If the generator can be identified, the HSET Inspector will notify them and request their presence at the landfill.
7. The HSET Inspector and a Refuse Disposal Code Compliance Officer will create a "safety zone" by keeping personnel and customers away from the holding area. No further action will be taken until the City and County response teams arrive.
8. The Hazardous Materials Team will determine if the vehicle warrants further isolation. The Senior Disposal Site Supervisor will select an appropriate site for the responders to investigate the waste.
9. The final disposition of the material will be determined by the County Department of Environmental Health.

10. The HSET Inspector will complete an *Unusual Incident Report Form* (see attachment) within one (1) hour of final resolution of the incident. Copies will be forwarded to:

- a. Hazardous Substances Enforcement Team (HSET)
- b. Deputy Environmental Services Director, Refuse Disposal Division
- c. Deputy Environmental Services Director
- d. Environmental Services Director

***Environmental Management System (EMS) –ISO 14001***

***PROCESS MAP #: FB-1.0***

**Benefit of Compliance to Instruction:**

- Minimizes potential for employee exposure to radioactive waste
- Minimizes adverse impacts to the landfill environment
- Ensures radioactive waste is managed and disposed of in accordance with Regulatory requirements

**Consequence of Non-Compliance to Instruction:**

- Increases the potential for employee injury or exposure
- Negative environmental impacts are not addressed or prevented
- Parties responsible for radioactive material are not identified
- Violations and/or fines from Regulatory Agencies

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*The on-line version and secured hardcopy are the controlled documents. The secured hardcopy will be identified by a "Controlled Copy" stamp (in red) and RDD Deputy Director's signature. Any other documents are uncontrolled. Verify revision level status on-line or contact the EMR.*